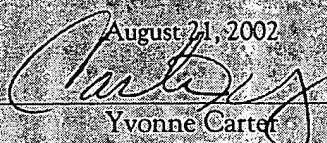




Patent Docket P2630P1C7

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  Avi Ashkenazi et al  Serial No.: 09/978189  Filed: 10/15/2001	Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned  Examiner: Not yet assigned  <div style="text-align: center;"><small>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</small> <small>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on</small> <small>August 21, 2002</small>  <small>Yvonne Carter</small></div>
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above captioned patent application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered.

**In the specification:**

Please delete the paragraph at page 1, line 2, that was previously added by preliminary amendment.

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 1, line 2:

**--RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 09/918585 filed 7/30/2001, which is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, PCT Application PCT/US00/04341 filed 2/18/2000, which is a continuation-in-part of, and claims priority

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**Filed:** 10/15/2001

under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 09/380138 filed 8/25/1999, now abandoned, where US Application 09/380138 is the National Stage filed under 35 USC §371 of PCT Application PCT/US99/05028 filed 3/8/1999, which claims priority under 35 USC §119 to US Provisional Application 60/083336 filed 4/27/1998 and to US Provisional Application 60/064249 filed 11/3/1997.--